

REMARKS

After entry of the instant paper, claims 1-55 will be pending.

Applicants understand that with respect to the listing of claims in the response to the Restriction Requirement as filed August 10, 2006, the listing of claims was not entered. Therefore, the instant claims are presented herein in place of the aforementioned filed listing of claims. Furthermore, as the correction required is only directed to the Amendment to the Claims, only the corrected section, *i.e.*, the listing of claims, has been presented herein.

Claims directed to Group 1, *i.e.*, claims 6-11 and 44-46, and linking claims 1-5, 12, 15, 42, and 43, have been provisionally elected with traverse as indicated in the previous response filed August 10, 2006. As a reminder, the Examiner previously indicated that the linking claims would be joined with Group 1 if elected. The non-elected claims, *i.e.*, claims 13-14, 16-41, 47-51 have been provisionally listed with the status identifier of “withdrawn” or “withdrawn- currently amended” in accordance with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) guidelines.

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Devi for taking the time to explain the USPTO guidelines in view of the amendment practice under 37 C.F.R. §1.121. The Examiner pointed to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for the revised amendment practice under 37 C.F.R. §1.121 for guidance as to the appropriateness of the claim status identifiers in response to a Restriction Requirement when the applicant has elected with traverse. Applicants have amended the listing of claims to reflect a “withdrawn” status identifier of those claims that were not in the provisionally elected Group 1 in order to expedite prosecution of the instant application. However, applicants understand that all of the pending claims will be considered with respect to the response to the Restriction Requirement.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and entry of the listing of claims presented herein, and furthermore, withdrawal of the restriction requirement previously issued in this application.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. **13-4500**, Order No. 2324-6052US1.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. **13-4500**, Order No. 2324-6052US1.

Respectfully submitted,
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